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land shall be \$2 50 per acre, and that all the land except such as may be specially reserved shall be sold, but that the ownership of mines of gold and silver shall still remain with the government.

#### EXPLORATIONS AND SURVEYS.

Orders have been issued by General Harney, commanding in Oregon, directing four companies to open a wagon-road between the Columbia and Great Salt Lake City. The expedition is to be commanded by Capt. Wallen, 1st Lieutenants Bonnycastle, Johnson and Sweetzer, and 2d Lieutenants Reno, Houston, Roberts and Dixon, and Assistant-Surgeon Randolph. The objects of the expedition are stated to be "to increase the facilities of communication between the Columbia River and the Valley of the Great Salt Lake, in connection with the overland route to the frontiers of the Western States, by opening a good wagon road to the Snake River, in the vicinity of the mouth of the Malheur River, and from there to a point called the 'City Rocks,' at the junction of the road from Forts Laramie and Bridger with the road from Fort Hall to Great Salt Lake City."

By the latest advices from Oregon (20th May, 1859), Lieutenant Mullan and his party had arrived at Portland. They would immediately go to work on the survey, and cutting through a wagon-road from Walla-Walla to Fort Benton. By the same mail we learn that the steamer Col. Wright, on her last voyage, ascended the Snake River some 50 miles—that is to the site of Fort Taylor, at the mouth of Tu-keh-non—encountering between the mouth of the Palouse and the Tu-keh-non, a distance of three miles, a very strong rapid. Hereafter, in connection with the movement on Colville, she will make the landing at the mouth of the Palouse, where she will also land the supplies for the Fort Benton road party, whose labors will be greatly facilitated and shortened by this inauguration of steam navigation on the Snake. The Columbia is now regularly navigated by steamers, in all its length below

the Palouse, only requiring transshipment at the Dalles.

In South America, the Frenchman, Dr. Plasard, who is settled in Ciudad Bolivar, has undertaken an excursion into the interior of Venezuelan Guayana, and found gold to the south of the lower Orinoco, toward the Yuruari.

At Rio Janeiro, Messrs. Capanema, Lagos and Gonsalvo Diaz are preparing for a second expedition into the interior of Brazil, which is almost entirely unknown, and in the possession of wild Indian tribes. They will have a military escort.

#### AFRICAN DISCOVERY.

The great center to which most discoverers instinctively turn, is still the interior of Africa. Those vast countries which are represented in blank on our maps, have been attacked from all sides—east, west, north and south.

The renowned Dr. Robert Livingstone is now making an excursion in those countries which he discovered during his long journey from St. Paul de Loanda to Quilimane. He embarked last year, equipped with instruments for making scientific observations. He will first attempt to go up the Zambeze River in a canoe, which he has named "Ma Robert," or Robert's wife or mother, as the natives along the Zambeze River have great respect for the wife and mother of a man whom they admire.

The English steamer, the *Rainbow*, sailed on the 6th January out of Bonny into the Gulf of Benin, to explore the country along the Niger.

Ladislaus Magyar of Theresiopol, in Hungary, who, after the Hungarian insurrection, became a citizen of Brazil, has hit upon a rather singular but very prudent way to penetrate into the mysteries of inner Africa with the greatest possible safety and advantage. He has just married the daughter of the black King of Bihe in Upper Guinea. He has become Commander-in-Chief of the armies of his father-in-law, and uses his authority and his soldiers

to become acquainted with the countries lying in his neighborhood.

Jules Braouerec, commander of the corvette *Oise*, is now exploring the wholly unknown country through which the Gaboon River has its course.

The Swedish discoverer, Anderson, has traveled Ovampo, on the West Coast of Africa, south of Benguela, in the direction of the Cunene River.

On the east and south coast of Africa, two English officers, Capt. Burton and Lieut. Speke, found and measured last summer the great Lake Uiyi, between 3 deg. 30 min. and 8 deg. 40 min. south latitude—not to be confounded with Lakes Nyassa and Ukerewe, so much talked of in late years. Until this discovery, there was ground for belief in a great central sea in Africa, stretching from 12 deg south latitude to the equator; but this discovery is conclusive that the great bodies of water which have hitherto been discovered at widely distant points are separate lakes.

The French missionary, Leo des Avanchers, is traveling though the country, which lies to the eastward of this great sea. The German traveler, Albert Roscher, has gone in the same direction, having left Zanzibar with the hope of penetrating far into the interior.

Pedro de Gamitto, Governor of the Portuguese forts Tete and Sena on the Zambeze, is making preparations for new explorations in Central Africa, of which he has already given such interesting descriptions in his book titled "Muata Cazembe."

Massaga, the Sardinian missionary, is now exploring the interior of Abyssinia; so also is Bayssiere.

The Upper Nile is the object of untiring exploration. It would be strange if, before the end of this century, its whole course were not as well known as is now that of the Thames, the Seine or the Rhine. While the ægyptologists and archæologists like Mariette, Deveria, Pommereuil, de Seibly, Brugsch, Eckhold and others are searching out the mysteries of Ancient Egypt far up into Nubia, scientific men

have undertaken, singly or in small numbers, to follow the Nile upward, in spite of all the difficulties which for three thousand years have baffled the bravest explorers. Messrs. Firth and Windham are about starting to go up the White Nile in an iron boat thirty-six feet long, drawing but one foot of water. They will be accompanied or followed by Messrs. Thomassey, Miani and others.

On the 27th of February last, the Sardinian traveler, Brun-Rollet, died at Khartoum, on the boundary between Nubia and Abyssinia. He had penetrated all the country bordering on the upper Nile, and discovered Lake No, in lat. 12 deg., and the Bahr Keilak, or Misselad, which belongs to the western basin of the Nile.

McCarthy, the son of the geographer, has it in contemplation to travel on a new track to Timbuctoo from Algiers, where he has lived these eight years. According to his plan, he will pass through Laghouat and Goleah, then make a circuit to the east to get out of the way of a tribe of Arabs who have been beguiled by a new prophet, and then continue his journey by Ghadames, Ghat and Lake Tsad.

Other travelers, also, such as Capt. Magnan, Baron Kraft, and Yussufben Gallabi, are bent on discovery, starting from Algiers or other northern points.

#### ASIATIC RESEARCH.

Asia is also attracting attention and being explored by many travelers. Kriel has been sent by the Vienna Academy into Asiatic Turkey. Rey is exploring some hitherto neglected portions of Syria and Palestine. The brothers Schlaginweit are still continuing their researches in Central Asia. A Russian scientific expedition is engaged in the exploration of Chorassan; while a detachment of the French troops in Indo-China is escorting a scientific corps through that country. Many other savans have received missions from the Ministry of Public Instruction, or from the Paris Museum. Beside this, the Catholic and Protestant missionaries are coming more and more